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William S. Masters, Sheriff

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Wanted Indiana Man Apprehended in Norwood Following Tip from "Bounty Hunters"

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November 3, 2015 (Norwood, CO) – A 35 year-old wanted Indiana man was taken into custody Monday by San Miguel County Sheriff Deputies after they received tips from Indiana bail bond agents who were searching for the felon in the county.

San Miguel County Sheriff's Deputies received information from bail enforcement agents, often referred to as "bounty hunters," who traveled from Elkhart, Indiana, that a wanted felon was hiding in the Norwood area.

Darnell Lamar Parks, 35, was reportedly living with his girlfriend in a Wrights Mesa residence near Norwood.

Mr. Parks is wanted in Indiana for Violation of Probation for Dealing in Cocaine or a Narcotic Drug, with a bond of \$50,000. Additionally, in 2013, Mr. Parks was arrested in Indiana for Child Solicitation and released on bond. He failed to appear for that trial in March 2015, where the jury took 10 minutes to convict him. Mr. Parks failed to appear for his sentencing, resulting in a "no-bond Failure to Appear warrant" for him to be returned to begin his Indiana prison sentence.

SMSO deputies first made contact with Mr. Parks Saturday evening (October 31) based on a tip from a citizen that this man may be wanted, and no further information was provided. Mr. Parks used a false name during this initial interview, but SMSO Deputies could not corroborate the citizen's claims, nor did they have cause to detain the man.

The next evening (Sunday, November 1) the Indiana bail bond agents contacted SMSO deputies to alert them they were in the area looking for Mr. Parks, and it was determined that the man contacted by deputies the prior evening was this wanted man.

At about 13:40 PM Monday, November 2nd, an off-duty SMSO deputy observed Mr. Parks standing outside his residence, and alerted duty deputies, who arrived several minutes later. Parks was taken into custody without incident at about 13:50 PM. He was then positively identified by the Indiana bail enforcement agents and taken to the San Miguel County Jail where he will remain until extradition proceedings are completed with Indiana officials.

Mr. Park's girlfriend, Alisha Safford, 41, was also arrested for an unrelated "Failure to Appear" warrant out of Larimer County, CO.

Interviews with acquaintances in Norwood indicate that neither Mr. Parks nor Ms. Safford have any ties to the area. They were reportedly traveling through the region 4 to 5 months ago, when they experienced car trouble and were taken in by people in the area who were unaware of their criminal history.

The San Miguel Sheriff's Office, located in Telluride, Colorado and established in 1883, serves 7,800 residents and countless visitors across the 1,288 square miles of San Miguel County. Sheriff Bill Masters has been serving as the county's elected Sheriff since 1980.

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